

Kindly add the following claim:

15-25. (New) A composite tube as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least some of said ribs are disposed at angles other than perpendicular to said inner and outer walls.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the patentability of all of the remaining claims of the above identified patent application is solicited in view of the above amendments and the following comments. Applicant has cancelled the non-elected claims without prejudice to the filing of an appropriate division application directed to their subject matter.

The specification has been amended as suggested.

It is noted that the examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claims 12 and 13 is considered to be patentable except that these claims depend from a rejected claim. Claim 12 has been cancelled and its subject matter incorporated in claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore claim 12 rewritten in independent form insofar as the allowable subject matter of claim 12 is concerned.

A clear copy of claims 10 and 11 are set forth above.

Claim 9 has been amended as suggested

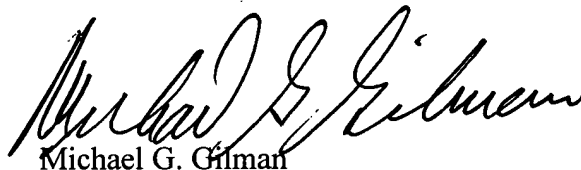
Claim 22 has been cancelled.

It is to be noted that a previous feature of claim 1, that is that the helical ribs are disposed at an angle to the perpendicular to the inner and outer tubular members, has been deleted from claim 1 and added as a new dependent claim 25. It is urged that this amendment be entered and that all of the claims be allowed and this application passed to issue.

It is believed that the extension of time petitioned for herewith is sufficient to maintain the pendency of this application. If it is not, kindly consider this to be a petition for whatever period of time is required to maintain pendency. It is believed that the fee filed herewith is correct and sufficient. Should the filed fee be incorrect, kindly debit or credit the correct amount to the undersigned attorneys' deposit account 07-1337.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Amended) A composite tube comprising at least one axially elongated, substantially rigid inner tubular wall, at least one axially elongated, substantially rigid outer tubular wall spaced from said inner tubular wall, and a plurality of substantially rigid ribs helically disposed in the space between the inner and outer walls; [wherein at least some of said ribs are disposed at angles other than perpendicular to said inner and outer walls], and wherein at least some of said ribs are joined to both said inner and outer walls along a sufficient portion of the axial length of said walls to maintain the spacing between said walls.

5. (Amended) A composite tube as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least some of said ribs are disposed at an angle, that differs from perpendicular, with respect to said inner [tube] tubular wall.

9. (Amended) A composite tube as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least some of said ribs are simultaneously contacted and adhered to at least one of said inner and outer tubes, respectively, at a location that is spaced from the location where the next adjacent ribs are contacted with and adhered to said inner and outer tubes so as to form generally longitudinal truss cells having a substantially trapezoidal cross section.